IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Heather J. JORDAN

Appl. No.: 09/613,903

Filed: July 11, 2000

For: Nucleic Acid Ladders

Confirmation No.: 1446

Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: Sisson, Bradley L.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4450001/RWE/TSC

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

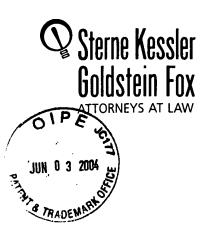
Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated December 3, 2003, Applicant submits the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned

under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.



Robert Greene Sterne Edward J. Kessler Jorge A. Goldstein David K.S. Cornwell Robert W. Esmond Tracy-Gene G. Durkin Michaele A. Cimbala Michael B. Ray Robert E. Sokohl Eric K. Steffe Michael Q. Lee Steven R. Ludwig John M. Covert Linda E. Alcorn Robert C. Millonig Donald J. Featherstone Lawrence B. Bugäsky Michael V. Messinger Judith U. Kim Timothy J. Shea, Jr. Patrick E. Garrett Heidi L. Kraus Edward W. Yee Albert L. Ferro* Donald R. Banowit Peter A. Jackman Teresa U. Medler Jeffrey S. Weaver Kendrick P. Patterson Vincent L. Capuano Eldora Eliison Floyd Thomas C. Fiala Brian J. Del Buono Virgil Lee Beaston Kimberly N. Reddick Theodore A. Wood Elizabeth J. Haanes Joseph S. Ostroff Frank R. Cottingham Christine M. Lhulier Rae Lynn Prengaman Jane Shershenovich' George S. Bardmesser Daniel A. Klein' Jason D. Eisenberg Michael D. Specht Andrea J. Kamage Tracy L. Muller' LuAnne M. DeSantis John J. Figueroa Ann E. Summerfield Tiera S. Coston Aric W. Ledford' Jessica L. Parezo

Timothy A. Doyle*
Gaby L. Longsworth*
Nicole D. Dretar*
Ted J. Ebersole
Hyoti C. Hyer*
Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowicz

Registered Faterit Agents Karen R. Markowicz Nancy J. Leith Helene C. Carfson Matthew J. Dowd Aaron L. Schwartz Katrina Y. Pei Quach Bryan L. Skelton Robert A. Schwartzman Teresa A. Colella Jeffrey S. Lundgren Victoria S. Ruttherford Eric D. Hayes Michelle K. Holoubek Robert H. DeSelms Simon J. Elliott Julie A. Heider Mita Mukherjee Scott M. Woodhouse

Of Counsel
Kenneth C. Bass III
Evan R. Smith
Marvin C. Guthrie

*Admitted only in Maryland *Admitted only in Virginia •Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

June 3, 2004

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER: (202) 772-8560
INTERNET ADDRESS: RESMOND@SKGF.COM

Mail Stop: Amendment

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Appl. No.: 09/613,903; Filed: July 11, 2000

For:

Nucleic Acid Ladders

Inventor:

Heather J. JORDAN

Our Ref:

0942.4450001/RWE/TSC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. PTO Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/17);
- 2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1);
- 3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111;
- 4. One (1) return postcard; and
- 5. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of \$950.00 to cover the 3-month extension of time fee.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox PLLC. : 1100 New York Avenue, NW : Washington, DC 20005 : 202.371.2600 f 202.371.2540 : www.skgf.com

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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Robert W. Esmond Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 32,893

RWE/TSC:ddc Enclosures

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